



OPTI-TOPICS

Bulletin of the Optimist Club of Huntsville

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President Bob called the meeting to order asking Sydney to give the invocation and to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. We had fifteen members in attendance and one guest, Fabiani Duarte today. It was good to see this fine young man again; he is in the process of selecting which law school he wants to attend.

After a delicious meal Bob welcomed Fabiani then told his joke. He presented a Power Point presentation of the many projects our club has participated in this year. Al Renz is home recuperating after back surgery, remember him in your thoughts and prayers. Duane Plank announced that the cookie lady Kimberly Scott could not be here because they are having a grand opening at Ashley's Furniture Store on South Parkway today, we were all invited to come by for desert.

Ralph Caneer announced there is a profile by Candice Dyer of his father-in-law W. H. Holley in the current Auburn Alumni magazine. W. H. Holley is the oldest living alumni at 103 years old. In the article he says his 90's were hectic. Ralph would like to have copies of the magazine if anyone doesn't need their copy.



Duane Plank introduced today's speaker, Superintendent of Madison County Schools Terry Davis, who has a doctoral degree from the University of Alabama; and has taught for many years, in addition to being principal at several Madison County schools.

Terry said that the school system has good people and that the vast majority of students are good kids. They have 21000 students and are growing at a rate of about 500 kids a year. This year the kids in the County school system received over 10 million dollars in scholarships plus one appointment to the Naval Academy.

He said that the Madison county school system will not need to have the massive layoffs that the Huntsville schools system had since they had anticipated the slow down and had been cutting back for the last few years. Their budget is near 200 million dollars and they currently spend around 12 million dollars a month.

The State financial situation is serious. Tourism has been cut 50% and with the schools funded by the sales tax it is difficult to plan ahead. Madison County's school funding is 70% State and 30% local, less than 1% comes from Federal dollars.

He concluded that he loves what he does.

Last week's pot won by Jim Berry was \$40.20, President Bob Martin won today's pot.

CALENDAR

06/17	Thurs.11:45	ORC	Business Meeting (Food by Plank)
06/24	Thurs.11:45	DHI	Kathy McCowan Solving the Puzzle of Autism
07/10	Sat.	Sandridge Farm	Club Picnic

